

Private U.S. Assistance in Costa Rica

Report - August 2006

PUBLIC COPY

- **U.S. FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

- **LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL:**

- **EYE CARE PROGRAM:** In February 2006, 11 U.S. doctors visited Costa Rica for one week as part of the Lions Club “Lions of Sight” program. During the visit these doctors saw up to 400 low income patients per day, gave out about 1,500 pairs of eyeglasses, and performed cataract operations. The doctors paid all of their own expenses.
- **DENTAL PROGRAM:** The Club helps collect donations for the University of Iowa Dental Program (see page 13).
- Contact information at: <http://www.lionsclubs.org>

Club de Leones: Coronado (506) 229-5115

President of the Lions Club San Jose, CR: Luis Alfaro Moya, (506) 396-8459 alfaro57enrique@yahoo.com

- **THE COSTA RICA-MINNESOTA PARTNERSHIP:**

- **VOLUNTEERS AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE:** This foundation was established in 1991 to “support educational, scientific, cultural and economic activities that link the peoples of Minnesota and Costa Rica to their mutual benefit.” Since its inception, the foundation has conducted a series of small, carefully defined projects with clear, achievable objectives in Costa Rica. Some examples include: visits by Minnesota physicians to share their expertise with Costa Rica doctors in provincial towns, the construction of a school and other facilities by Minnesota volunteers in the Osa Peninsula, funding for a bridge over the Río Claro, and support of Costa Rica’s Biodiversity Institute.

Please note, the partnership with Costa Rica ended in 2006, due to the death of its founder. However it continues to operate within the US.

- **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:**

- **LIBRARY PROJECT:** In February 2005, two U.S. Rotary Clubs, one from Pennsylvania and another from Texas, made donations to a rural Costa

Rican school in Matapalo to build a new, air-conditioned library to house the school's 500 books.

- **MICRO-LENDING:** The Rotary International has just started a micro-lending program.
- Contact information at: <http://www.rotary.org/> or <http://www.rotariosj.org/> or email at rotariosj@rasca.co.cr

Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

Phone: (847) 866-3000 or Fax: (847) 328-8554 or (847) 328-8281

San Jose: Phone: (506) 222-0993 or Fax: (506) 222-1021

- **THE DAVID KITSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY:**

- **LIBRARY:** A group of U.S. expatriates and other foreign residents funded and opened an American-style lending library in Bocas de Nosara in 1996 and another one in 2005. The libraries offer computer, typing, and G.E.D. classes and an intensive English language course.
- Contact information at: <http://discoverypress.com/library/> or call the library in Nosara directly at (506) 682-0091 (Beverly Kitson-Director).

- **THE MOBILITY PROJECT OF THE UNITED STATES:**

- **WHEELCHAIRS:** The project donated 225 wheelchairs, including chairs for paraplegics.
- Contact information at: <http://www.mobilityproject.org/> or call 1-800-818-8846

- **NATIONAL CRISTINA FOUNDATION (GSA FOR OPPORTUNITY):**

- **COMPUTERS:** The foundation donated approximately 220 CPU's, 220 monitors, and 10 printers, speakers, cords, keyboards and mice. It renovated an old hotel in Limon and turned it into a computer center, where computer and technology training is now available.
- Contact information at: <http://www.cristina.org/>

Charles Moore, Director
Opportunity Access
219 Woodward Rd.
Media, PA 19063
(610) 565-6249

Heather Burns Knierim, MSW
VP of Programs
National Cristina Foundation
500 W. Putnam Ave.
Greenwich, CT 06830
Main phone: (203) 863-9100
Fax: (203) 863-9230

- **RONALD MCDONALD CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION (COSTA RICA):**
 - **YEARLY CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT:** This benefit is sponsored by the Ronald McDonald Children's Foundation, donations are made in increments of \$1,000.
 - **MEDICAL DONATIONS:** The foundation donates to health facilities and pediatric hospitals. In total \$193 million worldwide has been donated and it has helped more than 215,000 children.
- **THE DO-IT FOUNDATION:**
 - **WHEELCHAIRS:** This group of American-owned businesses in Guanacaste provides free wheelchairs to the disadvantaged and disabled, and has donated over 1,100 wheelchairs.
 - **INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL:** In 2006, the foundation hosted the 5th International Independence Festival. The donations collected will go to the Girl and Boy Scouts Group 50 of Liberia.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.doitfoundation.org/>

Silvia Villalobos in San Jose (506) 667-0667 or
silviavillalobos@papagayodoitcenter.com

John Scheman Doit Foundation President: johncr@rasca.co.cr
- **GIVE KIDS THE WORLD VILLAGE (NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL):**
 - **DONATION:** The organization sponsored a trip to the United States for a group of terminally ill and disadvantaged youth.
- **SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL: Quepos – Ft. Lauderdale, FL.**
 - **Sister Cities International** is a non-profit citizen diplomacy network seeking stronger economic and cultural ties at the municipal level. It includes a two-way system of communication and should mutually benefit partnering communities.
 - **La Mansion Inn:** Owner, Harry Bodaan, is an active contributor and the Chairman of Sister Cities International Quepos.
 - **Chamber Of Commerce & Grupo Manuel Antonio:** Currently seeking qualified volunteers from these two sides to integrate SCI into the already existing structures and committees.
 - **SCI Education Committee (school projects):** Provides area schools with supplies they cannot afford and seeks reciprocal relationships with Ft. Lauderdale.
 - **SCI Law Enforcement Committee:** Provides the local police departments with supplies they otherwise cannot afford. They are seeking volunteers within the respective police departments to liaison with their counterparts in

the Ft. Lauderdale police department and members of the DEA. This also includes firefighter training.

- **SCI Media and Chamber/GMA Liaison Committee:** This committee's objective is to get the word out to the local populations in Quepos and Ft. Lauderdale about what the various committees of Sister Cities are doing and find local support for the programs.
 - **SCI Humane Society Committee:** Helps veterinarians fund an ongoing spaying and neutering campaign.
 - **SCI Sports Committee:** Plans and sponsors sporting events with Ft. Lauderdale.
 - **SCI Entertainment Committee:** Plans entertainment events and exchanges with Ft. Lauderdale.
 - **SCI Tourism Projects Committee:** Seeks to increase the number of visitors to the Manuel Antonio area, using a Ft. Lauderdale travel agent/wholesaler (Tico Travel) to sponsor various promotional events.
 - **SCI Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee:** Organizes exhibits, internships, arts and cultural events with the Sister City and foreign embassies.
 - **SCI Fundraising and Social Committee:** Seeks funds for the various SCI committees and plans social events throughout the year with the Sister City and the local community.
 - **SCI Library Committee:** The Broward County Library will assist the Quepos library.
 - **SCI Ecological and Environmental Committee:** Boy and Girl Scouts, i.e. Guías and Scouts de Costa Rica, work directly with the Sister City on clean-up and environmental programs, i.e. recycling and the wounded animal rescue center.
 - **SCI Beach Safety Committee:** Links local lifeguards and beach staff with the Sister City lifeguard association.
 - **SCI Host Committee:** The committee acts as the "welcome wagon" for visitors and assists visitors with an introduction to the area.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.sister-cities.org/>
-
- **CONSERVING THE OSA:** The Osa campaign is a public-private international partnership of four institutions. The following partners are US-based:
 - **CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL (CI):** A US-based international non-profit environmental organization.
 - **COSTA RICA-USA FOUNDATION (CRUSA):** Funded with US government monies from the Agency for International Development (USAID), CRUSA is a private, non-profit organization to promote ties between the two countries (AMIGOS DE COSTA RICA is the CRUSA organization in the USA). More information at: www.cr-usa.org
 - **NATURE CONSERVANCY (TNC):** An international, non-profit membership organization whose mission is to protect plants, animals, and natural communities.

- Contact information at: www.osacampaign.org or info@osacampaign.org

PO Box 1628-1000
San Jose, Costa Rica

Phone: (506) 234-3360 or Fax: (506) 280-2137

Amigos of Costa Rica
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20006

Phone: (202) 756-4871 or Fax: (202) 756-1301

- **JO ANN CALDWELL ROTHWELL:**

- **EDUCATION:** She has volunteered hundreds of hours of teaching, helped raise funds for school supplies, new plumbing and a new addition to the crowded school in Piedra Blanca. Ms. Caldwell Rothwell and the volunteers have worked with the Canadian Club, the Women's Club of Costa Rica, and a Yahoo discussion group called Gallo Pinto.

- **PARTNERS OF THE AMERICAS:**

- **Partners of the Americas** is a private-voluntary organization which links U.S. states with countries in Latin America to recruit volunteers and carry out joint projects.
- **DISASTER RELIEF**
- **HEALTH SERVICES:** Children's rehabilitation centers, paramedic and firefighter training.
- **EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:** Education and literacy, culture, and travel grants (Teacher in Residence Program—30 day exchange program).
- **POLICY:** Trains individuals to properly monitor elections, with an emphasis on public diplomacy, as well as hosting deliberative forums on policy.
- **FARMER TO FARMER PROGRAM:** Offers expertise to newly formed cooperatives.
- **AMERICAN FELLOWS PROGRAM:** This program is sponsored by Partners of the Americas and is an exchange of outstanding civil servants to promote mutual understanding and excellence among governments of the Western Hemisphere. Furthermore, an American Business Fellows Program has recently been introduced. This program is focused on economic and business development and understanding among governments in the Western Hemisphere.

Contact information for the program: Cecilia Otero, Director
American Fellows Program
cotero@partners.net
(202) 637-6228

- Contact information at: www.partners.net or poacostarica@yahoo.com

Ramiro Crawford represents the Central America chapter
Phone/Fax: (506) 253-2912

- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:**

- **HOUSING:** Habitat's goal is to eliminate substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and make adequate, affordable housing available. In May 2006, four homes were built in the Carrizal de la Suiza de Turrialba community. In June 2006 three homes were built in Esparza and three in Grecia. Other communities that have recently benefited from the organization are San Rafael and San Roman. Ohio State University sent nine students and three advisors here in summer 2005.
- Contact information at : <http://www.habitatcostarica.org>

Lorena Soto lsoto@habitatcostarica.com

Phone/Fax –San Jose National Office
(011-506) 296-3436
(011-506) 296-3432
(011-506) 296-3430

- **AMERISPAN:**

- **PROJECTS and PROGRAMS:** Language immersion, internship and educational programs abroad, company programs for the elderly, as well as teachers' assistants, Nature/Environmental projects, ASVO organization, and cultural placements as in art galleries.
- **INFORMATION:** The organization works with more than 150 world organizations in all of Latin America and Spain, it is based in Philadelphia.
- Contact information at: <http://www.amerispan.com/> and http://www.amerispan.com/volunteer_intern/placements.asp.

- **CLUB ACTIVO 20-30 INTERNATIONAL OF SAN JOSE:**

- **TELETHON:** Raises funds for children and makes up the largest portion of its donations.
- **DISASTER RELIEF:** Participates in disaster relief efforts.
- **LIBRARY DONATIONS:** Libraries in the US have donated books to public libraries in Costa Rica.
- Contact information in San Jose:
President Luis Arce Hoffmaister (506) 828-2030
information@activo2030sanjose.org or sanjose@activo2030sanjose.org
Founded in 1956 in CR, no. 532
- Contact information in US and Canada:
National Association Office

915 L Street, Suite 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814

information@active20-30com or <http://www.active20-30.com>

- **AMIGOS DE LAS AMERICAS:**

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Promotes youth leadership development through community service projects, training and summer volunteer work in Latin American communities. College students are welcome to apply.

Programs include:

- **Community health and construction**
- **Environmental health**
- **Life skills**
- **Creative expression**
- *La Casa de la Juventud* and *El Ministerio de Educación* are program partners.
- Contact information at: <http://www.amigoslink.org>, to learn more about the Correspondent Volunteer Program.

Phone: 1-800-231-7796

Regional Directors: Jon Crail jcrail@amigoslink.org and Kristin Highum khighum@amigoslink.org

5618 Star Lane

Houston, TX 77057

Phone: (713) 782-5290 ext. 123 or Fax: (713) 782-9267

- **GLOBAL VOLUNTEERS:**

- **ENGLISH DEVELOPMENT**
- **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE:** Helps with various labor projects.
- **HEALTH CARE:** Doctors, nurses, and others volunteer their services and equipment. Health care programs include a women's health program.
- **BUSINESS INSTRUCTION AND CONSULTATION**
- Contact information at: www.globalvolunteers.org and email@globalvolunteers.org

375 East Little Canada Rd

St. Paul, MN 55117-1627

Phone: (800) 487-1074 or Fax: (651) 482-0915

- **LEAPNOW (LIFELONG EDUCATION ALTERNATIVES & PROGRAMS):**

- **VOLUNTEERS:** Between 6-14 people each academic semester volunteer for available projects.

- Contact information: www.leapnow.org/semester_cam.htm and information@leapnow.org

11640 Hwy 128
Calistoga, CA 94515

Phone: (707) 431-7265 or Fax: (707) 431-8479

- **WORLD VISION:**

- **POVERTY:** World Vision's goal is to eradicate the problems that cause poverty and help children. World Vision operates worldwide.
- **PROGRAMS INCLUDE:**
 - **SPONSORSHIPS:** Financial support for children.
 - **AGRICULTURE:** Agricultural training, food donations and water supplies.
 - **HEALTH CARE:** Free immunizations, HIV/AIDS awareness, clinics.
 - **EDUCATION:** School fees, tutoring, repairs, teachers.
 - **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Loans, business training, job skills, new markets for entrepreneurs.
 - **EMERGENCY AID:** Disaster relief and mitigation, first aid kits, shelter.
- **TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Through communities, World Vision carries out numerous youth enhancement projects such as health care, agriculture production, water projects, education, micro-enterprise development, advocacy and numerous other programs.
- **SOCIAL CONDUCT FORUMS:** In Alejuela, the organization sponsored a forum that taught social values such as respect, tolerance, honor, and solidarity to youth.
- **POTENTIAL WITHOUT LIMITS:** Initiated by Microsoft Corporation and with the help of World Vision, 400 students in the San Carlos and Alejuela region will receive new computer labs.
- Contact information at: <http://www.visionmundial.com/> and <http://www.worldvision.org>

Partnership Offices:
800 West Chestnut Ave.
Monrovia, CA 91016-3198
Web: uvi.org/

Latin America and Caribbean:
Apartado 133-2300-Curridabat
2300 Curridabat
San Jose, Costa Rica
Web: visionmundial.org/

Phone: (506) 283-4050 or Fax: (506) 283-4051

- **WORLD TEACH:**

- **EDUCATION:** World Teach has a contract with the Ministry of Public Education (MEP) to send volunteers to teach in rural elementary schools in Costa Rica. MEP contact is Anabelle Venegas. Another project works with the MEP's Telesecundaria division. Small high schools in rural areas are taught special subjects by videotape from Mexico. A primary goal is to teach English and provide everyday exposure to the students.
- Contact information at: http://www.worldteach.org/programs/costa-rica_year/program_profile.html or information@worldteach.org

World Teach
c/o Center for International Development
Harvard University
79 John F. Kennedy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

Phone: 1-800-4-TEACH-0 (483-2240) or Fax: (617) 495-1599

Katie Fraumann (617) 364-6222 or katiefraumann@yahoo.com

- **SURFRIDER FOUNDATION:**

- **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP:** In Tamarindo, this foundation has helped with beach clean-up, environmental education, protection of the reefs and a better quality of maritime waters.
- Contact information at: <http://www.surfridercostarica.org/chapter.html> for local Costa Rica chapters. The foundation is based in San Clemente, CA.

- **SHRINERS CLUB OF COSTA RICA:**

- **MEDICAL DONATION:** Donated medical services to a child burn victim, who was flown to the Shriners Hospital in Galveston, TX for surgery. One of their goals is to make intensive care treatment a possibility in Costa Rica.
- Contact information at: <http://www.shrinershq.org/>
Costa Rica: William Schiller (506) 302-7031.

- **TOYS FOR TOTS (MARINE CORPS):**

- **TOY DONATIONS:** The Marine Corps collects donations worldwide for local children's centers.
- Contact information at: <http://www.toysfortots.org/>

To donate go to: <https://secure.entango.com/donate/qKemFPpqULB>

- **YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE AMERICAS (YOA):**

- **SCHOLARSHIPS:** YOA is a full scholarship program, with auditions held annually.
- **CORPORATE COUNCIL:** There is a corporate council made up of various North American and Latin American businesses. Costa Rica is part of the executive committee. Their goal is to increase awareness of funding and donations to the YOA.
- **NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY & VISION, INC.:** Non-profit organization that works with the YOA.
- Contact information at: <http://www.youthorchestraoftheamericas.org/>

- **CUB SCOUTS:**
 - **DISASTER RELIEF:** The group has collected shoes and clothing to deliver to flood victims in Guanacaste. They work with the Costa Rican Guías and Scout Organization.
 - Contact information at: USA: <http://www.scouting.org/> and CR: <http://www.siemprelistos.com/>
Call (506) 222-9898 in Costa Rica to donate.

- **COSTA RICA-USA FOUNDATION (CRUSA):**
 - **CRUSA** is funded with US government monies from the Agency for International Development (USAID), and is a private, non-profit organization, dedicated to promoting ties between the two countries (AMIGOS DE COSTA RICA is the CRUSA organization in the USA).
 - **EDUCATION:** CRUSA has funded numerous projects related to education, intended to help develop the cognitive and social skills of children through information technology, creativity, critical thinking, and teaching and learning English as a second language.
 - **5 SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE DONATIONS:** For FY 2007 CRUSA will donate to the Asociación Empresarios Juveniles (AEJ), the Escuela Agrícola Regional de Trópico Húmedo (EARTH), the Fundación Omar Dengo (FOD), the Liga Internacional de Mujeres Pro Paz, and the University of Costa Rica (UCR).
 - **IN TOTAL:** After nine years, the organization has funded over 400 different projects.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.cr-usa.org/> and fcrusa@cr-usa.org
Fundación Costa Rica-Estados Unidos para la Cooperación, CR-USA
Ofi plaza del Este, Edificio B, 2do piso
Barrio Escalante, San José
Costa Rica
Phone: (506) 283-0665 or Fax: (506) 283-0981

- **DARE (DRUG AWARENESS RESISTANCE EDUCATION):**

- **DRUG PREVENTION:** A youth drug prevention education program, DARE originated in the U.S. and has now spread throughout countries like Costa Rica and Mexico.
- Contact information for DARE international at:
<http://www.dare.com/home/International/Default63f4.asp?N=International&M=9&S=0>
- **AMCHAM (COSTARRICENSE NORTHAMERICAN COMMERCE CHAMBER):**
 - **DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAMS:** In 2005, Amcham financed five disaster prevention plans for Costa Rica.
- **INTERNATIONAL LEARNING SERVICE (ILS):**
 - **MEDICAL TEAMS:** Dental, Optical, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Public Health, and Nursing teams of U.S. students donate time, money, and their services around the world.
 - **EDUCATION TEAMS:** Education majors travel and carry out their practicum, as well as special education programs.
 - **OTHER TEAMS:** Environmental, Recreational, Construction, Christian Missions and the HIKE FOR HUMANITY (HFH) program.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.islonline.org/> or info@ISLonline.org
 ISL Processing Center
 5813 Ralston Ave.
 Kansas City, MO 64133-3447
 Phone: (816) 767-0481 or Fax: (816) 313-0671
- **CARE:**
 - **CHILD LABOR:** CARE, along with local religious organizations and the U.S. Dept. of Labor, sponsored a concert at a local school to raise awareness of the growing child labor problem in Costa Rica.
 - **WORLD PROGRAMS:** Other world projects include crisis response teams, children and poverty, world hunger, education, HIV/AIDS, victories over poverty and care for children.
 - Contact information at: www.care.org or info@care.org
 Atlanta (Headquarters)
 151 Ellis Street
 Atlanta, GA 30303
 Phone: (404) 681-2552 or Fax: (404) 589-2651
- **GAEA FOUNDATION:**

- The GAEA Foundation works towards the protection of environmental resources.
- **SCHOLARSHIP:** The Foundation rewarded two Costa Rican women with scholarships, plus two months of residence at the Foundation in Princeton, Massachusetts.
- Contact information at: <http://www.gaeafoundation.org/>

• **SCHOOL AND CHURCH GROUPS**

• **CORNELL UNIVERSITY:**

- **DONATION OF INSTRUMENTS:** In January 2006, the Cornell University Wind Ensemble visited Costa Rica to give a series of concerts throughout the country and to donate 80 musical instruments to an impoverished, rural Costa Rican school. Additionally, the group gave a benefit concert and donated the proceeds to Costa Rican schools and organizations serving underprivileged children.

• **OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY:**

- **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:** During summer 2005, a group of nine Ohio State University students and three faculty advisers came to Costa Rica to build homes through Habitat for Humanity for families in need. In addition to completing three houses, the group also donated to the Costa Rican chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

• **MIT (MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY):**

- **COMPUTERS:** Designed \$100 laptops to be donated to schools around the world. Distribution of the computers is set for the end of 2006. This is funded under the organization “One Laptop per Child.” The Omar Dengo Foundation of Costa Rica participates in this program.
- More information at: <http://www.telecentre.org/en-tc/taxonomy/term/575>

• **MEDICAL STUDENTS (USA, CANADA, AUSTRALIA):**

- **VOLUNTEERS:** 19 medical students traveled to Puntarenas to provide medical services.

• **THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CONNECTICUT:**

- **RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:** Volunteers built and financed a basketball court for a local town in Costa Rica, to keep children involved and off of the streets.

- **SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY (SLU):**
 - **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE NETWORK:** Exchange between SLU and the Cámara de Industrias de Costa Rica and the Instituto de Excelencia Empresarial. Its intentions are to establish a technology center for small and medium-sized enterprises in order to improve already existing services. The project was initiated by SLU and financed by the InterAmerican Development Bank.
- **GEORGIA MEDICAL STUDENTS:**
 - **MEDICAL SUPPLIES:** 39 medical students from the state of Georgia donated time and supplies to a local community. They gave free dental, ophthalmology and general medical examinations, as well as free eye glasses.
- **THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DENTAL PROGRAM:**
 - **VOLUNTEERS AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE:** In 2004 and 2005 the Hispanic Dental Association at the University of Iowa sent a total of 51 dentists to Costa Rica to give free dental service to needy residents in several rural communities.
- **U.S. COMPANIES**
 - **INTEL:**
 - **VOLUNTEERS:** Intel employees volunteered to clean up in La Sabana Park.
 - **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:** Intel donated money to educational centers (high schools, technical colleges, and universities). Donations are combined with volunteer work as well. Intel programs are associated with “Amigos de Aprendizaje” (ADA), technology demonstrations, “Educate for the Future” program, and developmental programs in science and mathematics. Another educational program that Intel sponsors is *Intel Computer Clubhouse*, an after-school program intended to inspire and help with youth self-esteem. The Museum of Science in Boston along with *Intel Computer Clubhouse* sponsored a trip to the Teen Summit in Boston for children worldwide, including Costa Rica.
 - **SOCIAL DONATIONS:** Intel supported the efforts of the Red Cross, Belen city clean-up project, Habitat for Humanity; also funds telethons and supports cultural development.
 - **ENVIRONMENT:** Funds reforestation projects, sustainable development programs, recycling, and has extended the “Save the Planet” program into Guanacaste.
 - Contact information at: [www/intel.com/go/responsibility](http://www.intel.com/go/responsibility)

- **WINDSTAR CRUISES:**
 - **ORPHANAGE DONATIONS:** In January 2006, the Seattle-based cruise line, Windstar, donated 148 mattresses, 290 pillows, 160 bed covers, 40 coffee pots, and 40 boxes of soap to two orphanages in the port city of Puntarenas.
- **IBM:**
 - **VOLUNTEERS:** IBM Costa Rica promotes the American tradition of volunteerism through a program called “MentorPlace” in which IBM employees mentor students on-line with the goal of helping them develop their written and grammatical skills, while at the same time broadening their knowledge of internet use and information technology.
- **MICROSOFT CORPORATION (WORLDWIDE ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATION):**
 - **COMPUTER SOFTWARE:** 62 high schools and 20 regional centers will receive complete Microsoft 2003 and Windows XP programs that can be reproduced legally at any time for school use only. They were recognized by AMCHAM for their “Escuela Ciudadelas Unidas, San Felipe de Alajuelita” program furthering community ties, especially between the young and old.
 - **TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM:** Microsoft, together with the InterAmerican Development Bank, is facilitating access to information technology and communication. It intends to increase social and economic development in the regions, especially science and technology. This program will be introduced throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. These programs are intended to produce increased investment in the areas as well as to promote information security.
 - **PROGRAM FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR INNOVATION AND SOCIAL SERVICE:** A recently-announced program by the InterAmerican Development Bank, which Microsoft will help sponsor.
 - **POTENTIAL WITHOUT LIMITS:** This project was begun by Microsoft Corporation and with the help of World Vision, 400 students in the San Carlos and Alejuela region will receive new computer labs.
- **CROWLEY:**
 - **SCHOLARSHIPS:** Every year they provide a scholarship to a student from Limón.
 - **VOLUNTEERS:** Employee volunteers, with an annual budget, have helped restore run-down buildings and build new schools.

- Contact their Costa Rica office at:
<http://www.crowley.com/contactus/service-locator-costa-rica.asp>
- **HOSPIRA of COSTA RICA (ABBOT LABORATORIES):**
 - **MEDICAL SUPPLIES:** Donated ambulances in La Aurora.
 - **KITCHEN SUPPLIES:** Donated kitchen equipment to Hogar Siembra.
 - **SCHOOL:** Funded back-to-school program in the INVU Las Cañas school.
 - **GIFTS:** Funded a Christmas party and gifts to children in Heredia.
 - **TELETHON:** Sponsored a telethon that benefited various other projects.
- **ANC CAR (ALAMO RENT-A-CAR & NATIONAL CAR RENTAL):**
 - **SCHOLARSHIPS:** 50 local school children were sponsored by either an individual employee or directly by the company.
 - **VOLUNTEERS**
- **THE OKLAHOMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY:**
 - **EDUCATION:** More than 160 teachers from the U.S. received grants to travel to foreign countries, Costa Rica included, to study the language literature, culture, geography and more, to promote people to people exchange.
- **ESSO STANDARD OIL, S.A. LIMITED (EXXONMOBIL CHEMICAL):**
 - **CIVIC AND COMMUNITY:** Sponsored the Latin American Congress of Chemical Engineer Students (2005).
 - **ENVIRONMENT:** Funded a project to protect the green turtle at Tortugero National Park.
 - **EDUCATION:** Fund for college scholarships established by the private industry association, as well as donations to three elementary schools at Moín Port.
- **LANIER OF COSTA RICA:**
 - **ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES:** Funds six environmental activities with the program Pulmoncitos de Esperanza in Northern Zone schools. Participated in the e-waste management program, as the AmCham representative.
 - **DONATIONS:** Lanier made donations to the Fundación Neotropica. Also donated copier equipment to various schools, and donated supplies to Iglesia de Cristo Rey.
- **SYKES LATIN AMERICA:** (Tampa-based company)

- ***SEMBRANDO ESPERANZA:*** This is their corporate responsibility project that began in November 2004. 400 employee volunteers participate in activities destined to improve the conditions of schools and their students.
 - **School Donations:** Donated school supplies, textbooks, computer learning games, and math and science teaching supplies for 1-room school houses (3,000 students and 1 teacher) throughout Costa Rica.
 - Contact information at: sembrando.esperanza@cr.syskes.com
- **FEDEX:**
 - **CONSULTING SERVICES:** The Ministry of Economy and FedEx signed an agreement for the program “Fedex PyMEx Membership” to stimulate small and medium-sized export businesses. The program offers consulting services in logistics, international commerce, customs, access to commercial electronic tools, and development and design of packaging.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.fedex.com/cr/pymex>.
- **KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN:**
 - **EDUCATION:** KFC donated teaching supplies to local San Jose neighborhood schools, ranging from pencils to VCR’s.
- **GRAY & SONS JEWELERS:**
 - **KITCHEN DONATIONS:** This Miami-based jewelry store donates monthly to the Triángulo de Solidaridad shantytown community kitchen. The money goes towards food, new kitchen supplies and repairs. Father Luis Gonzalo Mateo organizes the donations and kitchen.
- **LINDA VISTA (A SUBSIDIARY OF BALL HORTICULTRAL CO.)**
 - **CLAUDE HOPE TRUST:** The company has three production sites, all located in Cartago, with 1,300 employees. It provides low-cost loans to employees.
 - **AGROVIDA PROGRAM:** Sponsored by Linda Vista and Bayer Crop Science, its objective is to educate, facilitate and promote crop management in small farms around Cartago.
 - **OTHER DONATIONS:** Scholarships, free medicines, Christmas gifts.
- **REX INTERNATIONAL OF COSTA RICA:**
 - **SOCIAL AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS**
 - Contact information: <http://www.rexcargo.com/>
 Rex International, S.A.
 PO BOX: 2336-1000 San Jose

Heredia, Costa Rica

Phone: (506) 209-7000 or Fax: (506) 293-5725

- **STARBUCKS:**

- **PREFERRED SUPPLIER PROGRAM:** This program attempts to produce the highest quality of coffee through sustainable agriculture methods, and by evaluating the economic, social, and environmental aspects of coffee production. They promote equal pay and rights among their labor force.
- **USAID:** USAID funds initiated a program called Regional Coffee Quality, linking small producers with fine coffee vendors. Through AID, non-U.S. governments have allocated millions since 2002 to finance the project. This establishes a secure, solid relationship between the companies and the growers. Preference is given to those suppliers who cooperate with the program.
- **CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL (CI):** In October of 1998, Starbucks began a three-year partnership with CI to support farmers of shade grown coffee, while also protecting tropical forests. Starbucks also works with *CI* to help contribute to its *C.A.F.E Practices (Coffee And Farmer Equity)* program.
- **THE STARBUCKS FOUNDATION:** The foundation supports literacy programs with grants distributed to many nonprofit organizations, including their national partners, *Jumpstart* and *America SCORES*.

- **TEXAS HEART INSTITUTE:**

- **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:** Following a devastating fire in one of Costa Rica's largest hospitals, the Calderón Guardia Hospital, the Texas Heart Institute donated two hundred thousand dollars worth of medical equipment in August 2005.

- **KIMBERLY CLARK (FOUNDATION):**

- **THE FOUNDATION:** This charitable arm of the company supports its employees and families, while employees contribute time and money in the local communities where they live and work. Kimberly Clark also has an employee charitable donation program called "Community Partner Grants Program" that distributes scholarships and funds various community projects and schools.
- **MEDSHARE INTERNATIONAL:** Kimberly Clark supports the mission of MedShare International, a U.S.-based non-profit corporation that distributes surplus U.S. hospital supplies and equipment to help improve medical care in developing countries. Kimberly Clark employs a regional medical coordinator to help distribute the donated goods.

- **UNICEF:** Kimberly Clark has partnered with UNICEF in the fight against HIV/AIDS.
- **WITHIN COSTA RICA:**
 - **Environmental Protection:** Kimberly Clark works with small businesses in micro-business and recycling.
 - **Social Project:** Through the *Huggies* program, Kimberly Clark helps children hospitalized with serious diseases.
 - **Education Programs:** *Jardines Plan* – for pre-school school children; *Kotex Education Plan* – for pre-adolescents to educate them on the body's physical changes; and the *Talent Development Program* – to help young professionals find employment opportunities.
 - Contact information at: <http://www.kimberly-clark.com/aboutus/Sustainability2004/page55.asp>.
- **CITIGROUP (PART OF CITIBANK):**
 - **GROUPS:**
 - **Global Consumer Group (GCG):** Focuses on community reinvestment, community development finance and community relations.
 - **Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB):** Focuses on Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) Policy.
 - **Global Wealth Management:** Focuses on Socially Responsible Investment (SRI).
 - **CIB and GCG local businesses:** Works with Citigroup Foundation to provide philanthropic grants to NGO's and nonprofits around the world.
 - **ENVIRONMENT:** Citigroup partners with NGO's, focusing on sustainable economic development. Citigroup was one of the leaders that helped create *Equator Principles*. Another organization that Citigroup has partnered with is the *Rainforest Alliance*. They funded a sustainable tourism program, which helps small tourist companies within Costa Rica compete in the international market.
 - **BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP:** In addition to supporting disaster relief and community development projects such as building homes, schools and hospitals, Citigroup supports microfinance and micro-entrepreneurs.
 - Contact information at:

Irene Fariña *Public Affairs Officer*
Plaza Roble, Edificio El Patio 4to. Piso
Guachipelín de Escazú

Phone: (506) 201-0808 or Fax: (506) 201-8056
- **CISCO SYSTEMS:**

- **EDUCATION:** The *Nobel Program* and the *Cisco Networking Academy Program* focus on global education.
- **ENVIRONMENT:** Numerous recycling programs, minimizing the environmental impact of waste and the management of energy use.
- **CISCO SYSTEMS FOUNDATION:** This foundation has laid the groundwork for long-term, focused philanthropic efforts, and they have established 20 executive-sponsored Civic Councils to ensure volunteer projects, award regional grants and develop strategic projects.
- Contact information at:
http://www.cisco.com/web/about/ac227/about_cisco_corporate_citizenship_home.html

Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Dr.
San Jose, CA 95134
USA
(408)526-4000
(800)553-NETS or
(800)553-6387

- **BRIDGESTONE:**

- **ENVIRONMENT:** Established numerous recycling programs, as well as made sustainability a major goal. Programs include air, water and soil conservation.
- Contact information at: <http://bridgestone.com/>

- **PROCTER & GAMBLE:**

- **EDUCATION:** They have contributed to the construction of an educational facility for the visually impaired and have donated model schools. The *Eliminating Barriers Project* sought to adapt the infrastructure of seven schools in the metropolitan area and to train nearly 600 teachers and administrative personnel in Law 7600 for Equal Access to Opportunities for physically and mentally challenged individuals. The *Challenge of Excellence Program*, created in 2000, recognizes students with the highest academic averages.
- **VOLUNTEERS:** With over 2,250 employees and over 9,000 volunteer hours, projects such as “Leave Your Mark” and “Friends in Learning” were begun, as well as “Youth Clubs” and the “Professional Volunteering” program which works with United Way International.
- Contact information at: www.pg.com or www.pg.co.cr

Phone: (506) 204-1000 or Fax: (506) 204-1650

- **PFIZER:**

- **MEDICINE:** Pfizer reaches around the world to provide free medicine, health care training and community education. Projects include HIV/AIDS research and the *Global Health Fellows* program, as well as the *International Trachoma Initiative (ITI)* that was founded by Pfizer and the Emily Clark Foundation to help eliminate trachoma, the world's leading cause of preventable blindness.
- Contact information at:
http://www.pfizer.com/pfizer/subsites/corporate_citizenship/report/company_resp2.jsp
- **COCA-COLA (FOUNDATION):**
 - **EDUCATION:** Coca-Cola sponsors the program *Reading is Magic* in Costa Rica. The program focuses on building school libraries and working with the Ministry of Public Education (MEP). Their goal is to get children back into the classrooms and make learning fun and entertaining. They have helped rebuild libraries and have supplied recreational materials. Currently, 80 schools and 65,000 students benefit directly from this program.
 - Contact information at:
 Olga Reyes
 Public Affairs- Central America and Dominican Republic
 Apartado 2749-1000
 San Jose, Costa Rica
 Phone: (506) 299-3450 or Fax: (506) 299-3518 or Email:
 olreyes@la.ko.com
- **CHIQUITA:**
 - **ENVIRONMENT:** A Chiquita farm in Costa Rica is now also an eco-tourism destination. The *Nogal Reserve*, a protected area of rainforest, has been officially designated a private wildlife refuge by the Costa Rican government. The reserve includes a visitors' center, an environmental education classroom, botanical garden and an "education path" that explains banana cultivation techniques. Chiquita partnered with *Rainforest Alliance* to complete this project. A nearby house provides facilities for students and scientists and the project has created new research opportunities. *Creative Hands* is a program that was started by the Nogal community and sells handcrafts in the reserve.
 - Contact information at: <http://chiquita.com/> or www.ra.org/ (*Rainforest Alliance*)
- **MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL INC.:**

- **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:** These include: the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Children's Miracle Network, Habitat for Humanity International, America's Second Harvest, and the United Way.
- **ASSOCIATE INVOLVEMENT:** Includes: Spirit to Serve Our Communities Day and Preserving the Environment.
- ***SPIRIT TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES DAY:*** Employees volunteered at the San Gabriel House, which houses 600 children with terminal illnesses. They provided food, medicines, and medical services.
- **CHILDREN'S CHARITIES:** Employees sponsored a child from the Maria Auxiliadora Rehabilitation Center for its Christmas activity. They brought presents and goodie bags.
- **FOOD DONATIONS:** The hotel provided food for the Escuela de Calle Hernandez and the Ayuda Parroquia de Escobal de Belen graduation party.
- **OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES:** Marriott has supported activities in the San Juan de Dios Rehabilitation Hospital and Center, Rueda de Prensa for the Special Olympics, Albergue San Gabriel, Agenda Hospicio Huerfanos, and the Red Cross of San Antonio de Belen.
- Contact information at:
http://marriott.com/corporateinfo/culture/communityPrograms.mi?WT_Ref=mi_left#community